

Sept 1979

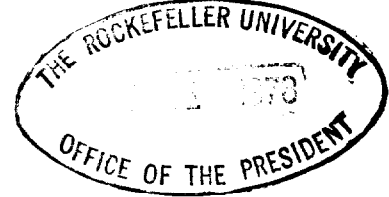
THE WALTER AND ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

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AFFILIATED WITH  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE  
AND  
THE ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL

DIRECTOR: SIR GUSTAV NOSSAL



6th December, 1978.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,  
President,  
The Rockefeller University,  
New York, N.Y. 10021  
U.S.A.

Dear Joshua,

You were kind enough to indicate during my last visit to New York that you might consider a visit to Australia at some time in the future. The purpose of this letter is to canvas with you an opportunity for such a visit, and to do honour to my old mentor, Sir Macfarlane Burnet. On 3rd September, 1979, Sir Mac celebrates his 80th birthday and we are planning a series of events to commemorate the occasion. First, as a total surprise, we will be issuing a special copy of the Hall Institute Annual Report which will have ten commissioned essays highlighting the contributions of Burnet to science, and presenting historical fragments of his years as Director of the Hall Institute. Secondly, on 3rd September there will be a glittering dinner. Thirdly, we thought we should like to invite two overseas personalities to deliver special lectures on 4th September and 5th September. There really are only four people in the world to whom the mind flies immediately - yourself, Carleton Gajdusek, Peter Medawar, and Niels Jerne. All of us agreed that you should be top of this list!

It is therefore my very great pleasure to invite you formally to be with us on the great occasion. The Institute could provide one first-class return airfare and all your local living expenses.

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CC to J Lin Co.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,  
Page 2,

6th December, 1978.

The only commitment vis a vis the Institute would be to deliver a lecture on any subject of your choosing on 4th September. If you were in a position to extend your visit somewhat, it is possible that some further funds could be found to cover Marguerite's fares. Alternatively, you might consider the possibility of using the Institute's contribution to cover Marguerite's trip and find alternative sources for your own travel. In any case, we all hope you will give the matter your earnest consideration, as this sentimental journey would ensure the success of our celebrations.

With warm, good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'G.J.V. Nossal', written in dark ink.

G.J.V. Nossal,  
Director.